

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 851
By Bowers

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize Bishop Gilbert E. Patterson, pastor and founder of the Temple of Deliverance Church of god in Christ.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that this legislative body should honor those persons who through enormous talents, richness of spirit, and faith in God have served and continue to perform with extraordinary dedication and unprecedented devotion; and

WHEREAS, once in a great while, there comes along a person, who through his capacity for love, dedicates himself to touching and shaping lives, thereby helping to build a better and brighter world; and

WHEREAS, Bishop G. E. Patterson, founder and senior pastor of the Temple of Deliverance Church of God in Christ in Memphis, is most assuredly one such outstanding citizen, who serves with integrity and initiative as pastor of the church; and

WHEREAS, born September 22, 1930, to Bishop and Mrs. W. A. Patterson, Sr. in Humboldt, Tennessee, he has been a minister of the gospel for over forty years. Pastor Patterson accepted his "calling" at the tender age of 17 and was ordained as an Elder in the Temple of Deliverance Church of God in Christ; and

WHEREAS, Bishop Patterson graduated from Lemoyne-Owen College, Detroit Bible Institute, and holds an honorary doctorate from Oral Roberts University. He is also one of the

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contributing writers of the Spirit Filled Life Bible, King James Version, which was edited by Dr. Jack Hayford; and

WHEREAS, in addition to founding the Temple of Deliverance Church of God in Christ, this visionary is the founder and president of Bountiful Blessings Ministries which is seen nationwide and internationally on BET and TBN cable networks. He also is the president and general manager of WBBP Radio, a full-time gospel radio station; and

WHEREAS, Bishop Patterson is the Jurisdictional Prelate of Tennessee Fourth Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction and a member of the General Board of the Church of God in Christ, Inc. He currently serves with Dr. Thomas Trask, General Superintendent of the Assemblies of God Churches, as Co-Chairperson for the Pentecostal/Charismatic Churches of North America (PCCNA), an interdenominational organization working toward racial reconciliation; and

WHEREAS, his many outstanding accomplishments aside, Pastor Graves is most appreciative of the love and support he shares with his devoted wife of 30 years, Louise; and

WHEREAS, it is important that we honor Bishop Gilbert E. Patterson for his resolute faith, purpose, and commitment to God and his fellow human beings; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we commend Bishop Gilbert E. Patterson of the Temple of Deliverance Church of God in Christ and extend to him our best wishes for much continued success in his faithful service to God and humanity.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.